

# Annuntiatus

## International Association of Special Education

The 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA – July 7 -11, 2013

### A Message from the President

By Paula H. Leitz

I am very excited to announce that IASE launched a new website at [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) on April 16, 2012. Thanks to Steve Leitz for all of his work on getting this new website up and running. You are the best! (I know I am a bit biased).

With the help of our members, we hope our site can grow to reflect the important work we are doing around the world. The site includes information about IASE leadership, membership, the upcoming 13th Biennial Conference, our publications, volunteer service projects and our GIVING project. With support from our members, we hope to grow the site making it an opportunity for existing and prospective members to collaborate, share and educate on topics of interest in special education. We invite you to visit the site, register as a website member, and contact any IASE Board member or webmaster, Steve Leitz, if you have recommendations for content additions. In the first two weeks, the site was visited by over 470 people from over 55 countries. So watch it grow as we continue to add items over the next months.

The website should provide us an excellent platform for supporting the launch of our National Chairs' initiative and to assist us in our efforts to grow membership. We should hear about the progress on these initiatives in the next newsletter.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer or winter (depending upon your location), and please visit [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) to view the Call for Proposals and prepare it to submit by October 1, 2012.

Cheers, Paula

### My Unforgettable Experience at the Don Bosco Center, Cochin, INDIA

By Rita Mulholland

I had a desire and some time to devote to volunteering, so I visited [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) and decided on the Don Bosco Center in Cochin, INDIA. This has been an IASE Volunteer Service Project site since 2006. The center was developed after begging was banned by the City Corporation of Cochin in 1973. They started a home for street children. The task of running the home was entrusted to the Salesians of Don Bosco. Today, that humble venture has developed into a well-integrated rehabilitation movement for children with behavioral and emotional problems who may have been physically and/or sexually abused, sold by parents for beggary, forced into child labor, or have had various conflicts with the law. The vision of Don Bosco is to reach out to the children of the street and to the young at risk, to inspire and support them towards a new life, and to help them get integrated back into the mainstream society.

This multi-faceted program serves 300+ children/youth daily via different centers. When I thought about what I would do when spending time with the children, I decided to take two laptops, a Flip Camera, and a SMART pen to familiarize them with new technology.

For seven days I moved between the buildings for the elementary and secondary-age boys, and the girls. Father Joe Fernandez, the Director, welcomed me and taught me so much during my visit and Father Anthony was available to be the van driver when we toured off the campus. All of the Fathers and other staff appear to have established great relationships with these students.



Father Joe and some of the older boys

*Sneha Bhavan (young boys):* I could only smile when I arrived at this center! The kids were doing what all kids do; they were running around, playing, cleaning, yelling and laughing! They could not get enough of the software Newsmaker where they wrote short pieces, selected weird looks for themselves and then ran the video to produce a movie. I loved their court system of speaking up in front of each other to discuss any problems they faced that day. I happened to be there for a birthday party and various students sang with the microphone. This center clearly has created a wonderful environment for these students to grow up in and become independent, successful adults.



Father Anthony, the great van driver

*Don Bosco (older boys):* This center is very comprehensive, as are the other centers. In the course of the day, the schedule allows for schooling, outdoor and indoor games, study hall, prayer, chores, and group talks as needed.



I had the opportunity to work with small groups to provide them with laptops, SMART pens, and a flip camera so that they could play with software, create videos and sound recordings! I loved watching them laugh and help each other to use the tech tools. They are being provided with everything they need to grow up into resourceful young men.

**Students were intense when participating in an after-school activity in drumming conducted by a local volunteer**

*Valsalya Bhavan (girls):* Two sisters have created a wonderful home environment for the 25 girls who have filled their days with a variety of activities as well as going to school in the local neighborhood. I found the girls to be talkative, social, engaging, and inquisitive. They loved using the flip camera and SMART pens to tape themselves, as well as the NewsMaker software where they created a story and then watched their own videos. I truly felt this was a real home with the girls willingly participating in their daily lives. While I was there, two weekly volunteers were working on conversational English with groups of girls. I can only praise this home as an excellent environment to support all these girls! A larger new building is presently under construction. It will be able to lodge about 40 girls and have a large outdoor recreational area for them. I absolutely loved being there!



**In the back row Marg Csapo hugs a girl at Valsalya Bhavan**

### June 2012 Follow-Up

In late June, three graduate students in the special education program of the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, USA, will be traveling with me back to the Don Bosco Center. We are currently raising money to purchase the Ubilate 7+ tablets (available in India) and webcams for students to use at the center. We will also pay for internet access. Our goal is to set up Skype and Google Hangout on all the tablets so that after we leave, the students will have weekly communication with the three graduate students for the purposes of developing English speaking and writing skills, as well as to help the children with school work.

I will always remember the time I spent in these centers. I wish I could have done more ... as I am currently looking for grants to help provide more support for these children and youth.

## **IASE History in the Making ..... Coming Home!** By Marg Csapo and Iris S. Drower



Allow us to take you back to the exciting time of special educational revolution in the early 70's, the days of advocacy for rights to education for children with special needs, from segregation to integration to inclusion into the community and public schools.

This revolution was the direct result of the Civil Rights movement in the USA in which many Canadians participated, especially in the marches, to ensure equal rights for all citizens in the USA. The revolution in Special Education began in the USA when several Canadian graduate students obtained their degrees in doctoral programs before Canadian universities offered doctoral degrees in special education.

The International Association of Special Education with its "special education without borders" orientation was born in the early 80's at the University of British Columbia's Department of Special Education, in Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA. Its journal, the International Journal of Special Education, and a series of international conferences in Vancouver, CANADA, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA, in Vienna, AUSTRIA, in Brighton, ENGLAND, in Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA, in Sydney, AUSTRALIA, in Warsaw, POLAND, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, CANADA, in Hong Kong, CHINA, in Alicante, SPAIN, and in Windhoek, NAMIBIA, attracted special education advocates from all over the world.

Through the efforts of the membership and the leadership of the IASE Board it has developed significant programs over the years, among them the Volunteer Service Project which aids volunteer special educators to reach out and assist special educators worldwide to improve the quality of education for children with special needs. Currently, there are volunteer sites in India, Tanzania, Mexico, Malawi and Bangladesh.

The International Journal of Special Education was put on a website in order to be made available to all special educators around the world, free of charge. While IASE is incorporated in the USA as a nonprofit organization, the International Journal of Special Education has been registered in Canada since 1985 and the 27th volume was completed in 2012. IASE issues Newsletters and the Journal of the International Association of Special Education as well.

So, we are now coming back home to where IASE began. Like Dorothy in the 'Wizard of Oz', give yourself a real IASE treat in July 2013! Take advantage of a unique and wonderful journey back to beautiful British Columbia (our original home). Be ready to enjoy the life in Vancouver and on campus! Take advantage of this unique offer: 10 days in Beautiful British Columbia by coming three days earlier and staying three days after the conference at the same group rate on campus.

We are planning a number of excursions, half-day and full day sightseeing tours, and if you have the time after the conference and feel adventurous enough, you may take a cruise to Alaska or the Rocky Mountain tour with your friends! Vancouver has a lot to offer and the UBC campus itself has many interesting features and of course the camaraderie of your IASE friends on campus will allow you to take your own self-guided tours as well!

Your planning committee members are busy arranging a number of surprises for you during the conference. So, like Dorothy let us all return home by clicking our updated version of those magical ruby slippers and repeat after me ...."There's no place like home."

We look forward to you coming home and being part of our

**family, familia, famille, familie,  
عائلة, 家庭, rodzina, οικογένεια,  
gia đình, famiglia, família, aile,  
семья, teaghlaigh, পরিবার, család**

for an exciting professional venture, where you learn, discuss, have fun, network and leave with lots of sweet memories!

## Meet Your Vancouver 2013 Conference Team

By Iris S. Drower

It gives us great pleasure to introduce Dr. Clay Keller (Qatar) and Dr. James Chapple (USA) as your newly appointed program team for the 2013 Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA. Both are very excited about working together to bring diversity of lectures, workshops, roundtables and panel presentations from across the globe to Vancouver. They are committed to this endeavor and have the highest hopes that this conference will be a success.

As you know from our outstanding website, our conference will be at the University of British Columbia campus (UBC) and all committees have been established. We are looking forward to working with all of you to bring the top talent and resources from the region as well as all over the world to our most humble beginnings. Please become part of our website network .... it is free! Two other co-chairs who are working effortlessly to publicize this conference are Dr. Sandy Parsons and Dr. Zandile P. Nkabinde. They have a very active committee that will be sending out communiques around the globe to further elicit more international participation.

The following co-chairs along with your local arrangement team are working with dedicated members to make this conference a true celebration. If you are interested on working with any of these committees, feel free to contact me or the co-chairs.

Vancouver Children's Art Co-Chairs: Dr. Shanna Jamanis and Dr. Sal Zimmerman

Proceedings Chair: Dr. Morgan Chitiyo

Poster Sessions Chair: Dr. Virginia MacEntee

Sponsorship Chair: Sister Mary Karen

Auction Chair: Dr. Alison Stafford

Exhibit Chair: Graydon Mitchell

Webmaster: Steve Leitz

Entertainment Co-Chairs (children events and entertainment options): Dr. Marcel Lebrun and Dr. Steven Shore

Conference Co-Chairs: Dr. Marg Csapo and Dr. Iris Drower

For more information on how you can work with our team feel free to contact me at: [iris.drower@asu.edu](mailto:iris.drower@asu.edu).

## Thanks to the IASE Members and their GIVING Fund

By Mary Gale Budzisz

It has been the pleasure of Mary Gale and Marg to distribute funds from our IASE GIVING Fund to our various volunteer sites. These funds go directly to the site for supplies and services that will directly benefit the students and their teachers.

When Marg and Mary Gale visited Jaipur, India, in February of 2012, they met Mr. Gupta who is a local puppeteer. He showed them his shop and his beautiful Rajasthani puppets. Within a short time, arrangements were made to bring a puppet show to our IASE Volunteer Service Project site at the Vimukti Girls School. Here are excerpts from a thank you letter from them:

*Greetings from Vimukti!*

*Our girls are extending their heartfelt gratitude to you for sponsoring a puppet show for them. You will be pleased to know that for most of the girls, this is the first time in their lives that they have seen such a show. They enjoyed every moment of this beautiful show. The show imparted various messages throughout, for example: the importance of self-reliance, education, health and hygiene.*

*We are indeed thankful to you all for the smiles and happiness on our girls' faces.*

*The girls are really lucky for they have beautiful people like you in their lives. We look forward to your generous support in the future also. Vimukti girls are conveying their regards to you.*

Sincerely,

Coordinators Deepshikha and Neelima and Principal Mathur

Vimukti Girls School

Jaipur, India



Some of the girls enjoying the puppet show

## Let's Increase our IASE Membership

By Mary Gale Budzisz

We need the help of all of our present 2012 IASE members!! Please consider sponsoring a new IASE member. Right now we have a number of interested prospective members in developing nations.

I have had the pleasure of sponsoring a number of IASE members over the last 20 years. Most of these people have become my good friends and it is truly thrilling to watch them grow and develop within our area of special education. Through these connections I have contacts worldwide and it is so nice to be able to meet them in their own countries. They have shared many comments about the pride they have in being an IASE member, about how they like being involved with our IASE family, and how IASE has helped them to develop and become leaders in their countries. Many have shared thankfulness in being able to publish in our Journal and newsletters, being able to collaborate with IASE members, and becoming IASE volunteer sites.

So, I would like to challenge each of you to become a sponsor ... just for one person. I am sure that the new members will be most thankful for your generosity!

It is difficult for most in developing nations to get the \$US 20 membership fee and send it to our IASE Treasurer for an additional expense. A lot of prospective members do not have credit cards and it is cost prohibitive for them to send money via other methods.

Take a minute and think about this .... you can help to change a life .... allow someone who is interested to become an IASE member.

As we celebrate our 25th year of an active IASE ... do you think we can sponsor 25 new members by June 25th??? If you know of someone who would like to be sponsored OR if you are the one who is willing to sponsor someone you do not know ... please send the application for membership form with the \$US 20 to:

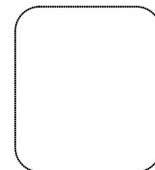
Jim Chapple, IASE Treasurer,  
1230 Cherokee Path, Vermillion, OHIO 44089-3328, USA.  
Or email Jim at [chappjw@aol.com](mailto:chappjw@aol.com).

The application form is on the back of this newsletter or visit [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org).

**The challenge is on. Ready, set, go!**

**International Association of Special Education**

*Renáta Tichá*  
104 Pattee Hall  
150 Pillsbury Drive SE  
Minneapolis, MN, 55455, USA



Two Easy Ways to Renew Your Membership

**By Mail: IASE Treasurer**

Dr. Jim Chapple  
1230 Cherokee Path  
Vermilion, Ohio 44089-3328, USA

**By Email:** [chappjw@aol.com](mailto:chappjw@aol.com)

**Please print information clearly:**

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State / Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues: Regular \$US 50 \_\_\_\_\_ Regular/Sponsor \$US 70 \_\_\_\_\_

Student Membership \$US 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Developing Country \$US 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \$US 70 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person sponsored: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail of person sponsored: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of person sponsored: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Marg Csapo Scholarship \$US \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Enclosed \$US** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information:** \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque (Payable to IASE, US funds)

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have special needs that require the journal or newsletter to be sent to you electronically, please note that here.  
IASE membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year.